MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(I) Need to drop the proposal of bringing tho bidi and tobacco manufacturers within the purview of Tobacco Board

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOHANLAL JHIKRAM (MANDLA): Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of this House to an important matter under Rule 377.

Producers of tobacco occupy a special importance in the Bidi Industry of the country. I have come to know that the Government has been considering a proposal for bringing the Bidi and Tobacco producers within the purview of Tobacco Board.

This proposal is neither in favour of the Government nor in the interest of producers as well as the Bidi manufacturers. It would only encourage the corruption.

I would like to urge the Government to drop this idea keeping in view the interests of the small tobacco producers and Bidi manufacturers. If the proposal is not withdrawn it would directly affect poorer sections of labourers as they would get jobless. Revenue shall also be affected.

(II) Need to Constitute a Special Committee to negotiate with technologists of post Crraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research at Chanitigarh who are Currently on stcike

[*English*]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): Sir, the technologists working at post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research at Chandigarh have been on strike and are sitting on Dharna for over a month now. As a result, the patients are suffering. I find some lack of communication between them and the authorities. In ε democracy, it is imperative that channels of communication, discussion and negotiation are not snapped. Their grouse is that despite the requirement of high qualifications for recruitment to their posts, the salaries etc. are rather discriminatory. A negotiated settlement and understanding and appreciation of each other's viewpoint is necessary. I, therefore, urge upon the Government to constitute a special committee to negotiate with the striking employees and resolve the issue.

(III) Need for early sanction of the proposed railway link from Todaraisingh to Nathdwara in Rajasthan.

SHRI SHIV CHARAN MATHUR (Bhilwara): Sir, though Rajasthan is richly endowed with mineral resources, it does not have necessary infrastructure for exploiting its natural wealth. Unfortunately, the State has the metre gauge lines in most of its districts except part of Delhi-Bombay railway line passing through few districts of Rajasthan. in the past, feasibility surveys of several lines being converted from metre gauge to broad gauge and commissioning new railway lines have been undertaken.The proposed railway link from Todaraisingh to Nathdwara is the result of one of such surveys. This rail link will connect important districts of Bhilwara, Udaipur, Ajmer and Tonk which are rich in minerals, agricultural produce and are industrially developed. This line will also be connecting the famous Rampura-Agucha Zinc and Silver Mines on the basis of which a Super Zinc Smelter Plant has been commissioned in Chittorgarh in recent months. Several representations for sanctioning of this important rail link have been submitted to the Minister of Railways in the past by various trade and industrial organisations, Members of Parliament, MLAs. and various sections of the public.

I would, therefore, urge upon the Government to favourably consider this proposal and sanction the same at an early date.